

**SITUATION REPORT NO. 3**  
**INCIDENT NO. 2000-112**  
**DATE: November 22, 2000      TIME: 2:30 p.m.**

**TO:** Governor Edward T. Schafer  
State Capitol  
Bismarck, N.D. 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Severe Weather-rain, freezing rain, snow, wind, tornadoes. A series of tornadoes moved through Burleigh, Morton, Oliver and McLean Counties on November 1, causing injuries and property damages. Meanwhile, winter storms on November 1-2 and November 6-9 impacted western, north central and eastern North Dakota, causing power outages, as well as road and school closures.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No change from previous report
3. DAMAGES: The National Weather Service (NWS) issued a winter weather advisory for snow and blowing snow in far western and north central North Dakota for November 1-2. Also a wind advisory was in effect for south central and eastern North Dakota . A deep low-pressure system brought winds of 25 to 45 mph. Also on November 6, the NWS issued a winter storm warning for Central North Dakota, a snow/blowing snow advisory for the West. In the eastern part of the State, rain changed to sleet and freezing rain as colder air moved into the region. This last sequence of adverse weather lasted until November 9.

On November 2, the Williams County Emergency Manager reported heavy snow, high winds and downed power lines which prompted schools to close in the county. REC power crews responded to the downed power lines. There was a report on November 3, that an area north of Grenora had been without power since the storm began. The Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Association (REA) has estimated that damages from the storms in Williams and Divide Counties to be \$220,300.

The McKenzie and Golden Valley County Emergency Managers reported on November 2, downed power lines in various locations due to approximately 6 inches of heavy snow/freezing rain. Goldenwest Electric Cooperative estimates damages from the storms in Golden Valley County to be \$5,414. McKenzie Electric Cooperative indicates that damages in both Golden Valley and McKenzie Counties at \$93,581.

The Divide County emergency manager reported on November 5 that power outages had impacted approximately 40 residents in the city of Fortuna and 61 farmsteads in five townships in western Divide County. Area residents were advised that they may be without power for up to a week. Most of these residents had generators or stayed with friends or relatives until the power was restored. On November 6 it was reported that telephone service had been restored. Sheridan Electric, serving that area, estimates damages in North Dakota from the storm to total \$195,000.

Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Association, Sheridan Electric, and Goldenwest Electric Cooperative are all headquartered in Montana and also sustained significant losses in Montana.

From November 5 to November 7, Fargo and Grand Forks received between 1.5 to 1.9 inches of rain and .6 to 2.3 inches of snow with peak wind speeds of 32 to 35 mph. During this period, there were several instances of power line breaks due to ice buildup and high winds.

The Walsh County Emergency Manager reported that the cities of Adams and Fairdale were without power for about 4 hours on November 7. Several rural residents remained without power until the next day. Flooding along the Red River also led to the closure of portions of County Road 2 earlier this month.

The Pierce/McHenry County Emergency Manager reported on November 9 that they have received .07 inches of rain and 9.5 inches of snow accumulation since November 7. She also reported several occurrences of sewer back up due to drain fields failing.

Northern Plains Electric estimates at this time indicate costs in excess of \$100,000 in Towner, Rolette, Benson, Ramsey, Wells, Pierce and Eddy Counties. Their damage assessment has not been completed.

Cavalier Electric Cooperative experienced outages in Cavalier and Ramsey Counties starting on November 6. Because of weather conditions and a shortage of available contractors and equipment, some line crews had their trucks pulled to damage sites by area farmers. Damages from the storms indicate 86 poles lost with numerous poles still leaning. Repair estimates are \$90,000 with most of the damages occurring in Cavalier County and some in Ramsey County.

Nodak Electric Cooperative stated from Adams in Walsh County to Devils Lake in Ramsey County, 400 accounts from November 7-9. It is estimated that there were over 1000 broken ties and a total repair cost of \$102,500 with few poles lost.

Capitol Electric Cooperative had most of their damages occur in the Wing/Regan area due to the damage to substations, a loss of six

transmission poles and three distribution poles. Line crews had trouble getting to some sites due to wet conditions. Contractors have not been able to complete damage costs, but it is estimated to be \$15 to \$18,000.

Minkota Power Cooperative estimated damage from tornados to be \$24,000. They continue to assess damages from the winter storms.

4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No change from previous report.

STATE: No change from previous report.

FEDERAL: No change from previous report.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: No change from previous report.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: No change from previous report.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No assistance has been requested at this time.

8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No outside help on the scene was reported.

9. OTHER: Situation Reports published by North Dakota Emergency

Management are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

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Douglas C. Friez, State Director